

WCCCA CLINIC ANNUAL MEETING 1-12-18

After the handing out of state qualifying plaques and longevity awards, the meeting was called to order by Matt Polzin. Roll call taken of current officers and WIAA Coaches Advisory Members as well as acknowledgement of those that couldn't attend.

DISTRICT REPS-Jeff Martin (D1), Kevin Hopp (D2), Craig Olsen (D3), Joy Manweiller (D4-taking over for Mike Jameson), Chris Smith (D5), Steve Lewis (D6) and Glen Gardiner (D7)

OTHER OFFICERS-Michael Rajsich (VP), Bob Rymer (Treasurer) and Jack Lo Presti (Secretary)

COACHES ADVISORY-Casey Hopp, Geoff Wilhelmy, Sarah Lazeracu, Jill Werner and Jeff Martin

Bob Rymer (who is also Clinic Co-Director) talked about how attendance at clinic was way up this year

Matt Polzin thanked Bryon Graun for his time of coordinating the rankings but Matt will be looking for someone new next year as Bryon is stepping aside.

A few new by-law items were added. Motions were made and some discussion was had before by-law language was approved. To summarize, language was added to the by-laws to reflect the current Hall of Fame process. Matt had been getting a lot of questions from coaches so wanted to make sure there was transparency in the process. The current committee consists of 8 members who meet each summer. Tom Scheller chairs the committee. If and when a current committee member steps aside, the president and current committee will solicit nominations and decide on new members. If and when Tom steps aside, people interested in taking over as HOF chair will contact the president.

Concerning the HOF, Matt also mentioned being more diligent in getting out an email to association members on the current year's inductees. And making it known to people that once they nominate someone, that person is on the list going forward.

Matt also talked about cleaning up the by-laws to reflect sending emails and electronic communication to the association rather than the publications and newsletters that the by-laws mention.

The idea of a lifetime membership was discussed. No motion was made but a small discussion was had on allowing any retired coach to become a lifetime member meaning they would no longer have to pay membership dues but would be a member going forward. Bob Rymer is already doing this for some coaches.

Matt expressed concern over the rankings that Bryon Graun also shares that not enough people rank despite it being available to all members. Matt talked about wanting to just have a committee (3-5 coaches?) in each division rank. What is happening now is that the ballots come in and they are big inaccuracies. So a small group of people already tweak the rankings before they are made public. By going to just a committee, rankings would be able to come out sooner than what they do now.

Along with that, it was talked about how some coaches have a hard time finding results. An idea was brought up that on the association webpage to provide a place to link results right next to that particular meet on our list of invites. This may provide a more comprehensive list of results. Matt also mentioned needing to update the list of timing company links for people to look at. Not as many coaches put results on the website anymore. Some opinions were voiced on this should be the meet host's responsibility.

Also concerning rankings, it was asked whether or not more coaches don't rank because it is daunting to rank 16 or 20 depending on division. But in a show of hands, it didn't seem that many more coaches would rank even if the list was reduced to only having to rank 10 teams.

Matt briefly talked about the MS State Meet hosted by Kevin Luedke. Kevin was in attendance and said that next year's date was October 6th.

Keith Olsen talked about the upcoming movie called "The Rocket" that highlights one of his former runners. It will be available on iTunes, Hulu, Amazon and all of the other normal platforms. Matt will send more info out in advance of the January 23rd release.

There was a brief discussion on some highlights from Coaches Advisory including some comments about the State Meet. Jim Newman was in attendance to address a few of those.

Matt showed a Power Point presentation that Stephanie Hauser provided to try to help clear up summer coaching contact. Stephanie was unable to be in attendance Friday afternoon due to her son's basketball game but will be back Saturday morning. Eric Lueck briefly spoke saying the intention of his survey was to try to help everyone better understand what they can do in the summer. Matt said that although most of the answers to Eric's questions are "yes" there are various requirements you have to meet to make them "yes" based on contact days etc.

Chad Carstens was given a few minutes to present an idea for an at-large qualifying proposal for the State meet. A few in attendance didn't like the fact that it gives some teams a perceived easier road to state out of an easier sectional. Matt emphasized this isn't necessarily the plan we would stick with going forward but highlighted the fact that the WIAA likes that it is a cut and dry system to use. (doesn't use rankings etc.) Matt also talked about the survey he gave in the fall and that there doesn't seem to be enough support for four divisions right now. There is a lot of frustration over imbalance in sectionals.